



**LOUISBURG PARK AND TREE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, February 14, 2022**

The Park & Tree Board of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers with Chairperson Bob Bazin presiding.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Andy Gibbons, Wayne Knop, and Jack Kline

**Mayor:** Donna Cook

**City Administrator:** Nathan Law

**City Staff:** Jean Carder

**Louisburg Rec Commission:** Diana Moore

**Recording Secretary:** Rusty Whitham

**Visitors:** Luke York

**Item 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Item 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Wayne Knop to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jack Kline. Motion passed 4-0.

**Item 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Wayne Knop to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Andy Gibbons. Motion passed 4-0.

**Item 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**Item 5: Discussion with Luke York concerning a proposed eagle scout project in L/Y Park.**

Luke York (Boy Scout Troop 101) explained that he wishes to install a flagpole and construct a couple of picnic tables in L/Y Park.

Bob Bazin asked where he plans to place these items. York said that he wants to place the flagpole and picnic tables in the designated Boy Scout camping area. He explained further by saying that the picnic tables will be placed in the shelter and the flagpole will be installed near a flower bed.

Bob Bazin mentioned that there was a flagpole in that area years ago, but it was removed because of damage caused by vandalism.

Jack Kline asked if the picnic tables will have aluminum frames with wood tops. York said yes.

Bob Bazin said that he has a flagpole and is willing to donate for this project. York said he accepts the donation.

York stated that the expected materials cost for this project will be between \$700 and \$900. He explained that the city will have no costs associated with this project. York stated that he wants to complete fundraising and complete the project by May 2022.

After additional discussion Jack Kline made a motion to approve Luke York's proposed eagle scout project. Andy Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

#### **Item 6: Discussion concerning the upcoming annual "Spruce up the Parks Event".**

It was mentioned by staff that the annual "Spruce up the Parks Event" will occur on April 2, 2022. Members of the Faith Chapel and National Honor Society are planning to volunteer time to spruce up the parks this year. They will be spreading mulch in all the parks and removing leaves from the tennis/pickleball Court in City Park. They will also do various other projects around the city based on the number of volunteers attending this event.

Jack Kline mentioned that he noticed someone practicing pickleball in City Park as he drove by to attend tonight's meeting. Staff anticipates that court usage will dramatically increase as the weather becomes warmer.

No further discussion occurred concerning this item.

#### **Item 7: Discussion concerning upcoming improvements to the Aquatic Center**

City Administrator Nathan Law stated all bids have been received to replace the pool filter system. City Council should be selecting the contractor shortly. Law also said that there's a lot of preparation work being done to get the facility ready for opening. Work includes repairing damaged concrete located in zero entry end of the pool.

It was mentioned that the Aquatic Center will open on Saturday May 28, 2022 (Memorial Weekend) and close Saturday August 13, 2022.

Wayne Knop asked is there a timeframe to have the filters replaced. Administrator Law explained that the filters will be replaced sometime this year and this work will not interfere with 2022 swim season. The filters may have to be replaced after the swim season ends. Law finished by saying that the estimated cost to replace the filter system is approximately \$135,000 to \$150,000.

No further discussion occurred concerning this item.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item 8:** None

## **REPORTS:**

### **Item 9: Individual area of responsibility updates:**

- Bob Bazin (Chairperson) – Nothing to report
- Ryan Westhoff (Aquatic Center) – Not Present
- Andy Gibbons (City Park) – Nothing to report
- Wayne Knop (Ron Weers Park) – Knop mentioned that he had several homeowners asking questions about the fiber company installing lines in town. Knop asked if anyone was monitoring them. Administrator Law said yes. Law stated that Suddenlink Communication is the company installing the lines in town. He explained that they are installing a node system and means that the lines being installed are composed of fiber and coax cable.

Knop said the complaints he is hearing is that the company is driving through yards with their equipment. Law explained that the contractors are placing lines in utility easements and sometimes they are in rear and side yards. They are also installing lines in the Right-of-Way which are typically located near the front yard. Administrator Law said that he has an easement in his backyard and this maybe where lines are installed on his property as well.

Knop mentioned that he knows of an instance were the communication company drove through a property and caused some damage. Law explained that property owners should contact the city when this type of situation happens so the problem can be addressed.

Bob Bazin and Wayne Knop both asked about depth requirements. Administrator Law explained these are all good questions and he is willing address theses concerns. However, a Parks and Tree Board meeting may be not the best forum to talk about this issue.

Wayne Knop then asked if the city is marking a path for the communication company to use near the jogging trail around the lake. Law then explained that the company know where the easements are located along the trail.

- Jack Kline (Forestry Manager) – Nothing to report
- Michael McClellan (Lewis-Young Park) – Not Present
- Diana Moore and/or Tyler Olson (Louisburg Rec Commission) - Diana Moore mentioned that LRC will be starting soccer practice in L/Y Park on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Soccer games begin on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- City Administrator – Administrator Law mentioned that the city received another inquiry concerning a dog park. The Park and Tree Board has previously discussed the need for this amenity at the request of local of residents last year. During that discussion it was mentioned that a grant was available. Unfortunately, since that time the city was not awarded the grant. It was explained that there are number of items currently on the Master Park Plan that need to be accomplished before a dog park can be added. It was recommended that the group do some fundraising to help offset the cost of a new dog park and then bring the request back to the Park Board for further consideration. Law explained that the Park and Tree Board can always

review the Master Park Plan and add a dog park at any time. Law said that there is community interest in a dog park.

Wayne Knop asked if there has been anymore conversations with Powell Observatory concerning their interest in moving their facility to another location in L/Y Park. Administrator Law said yes. Staff is currently reviewing the original agreement with Powell Observatory to ensure that we are adhering to the terms that granted the city the land.

**Item 8: Adjournment**

After a brief discussion Wayne Knop made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Kline. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting ended at 6:50p.m.

Submitted by Rusty Whitham